

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. In the Office Action, Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Wegrzyn* (U.S. Patent No. 5,729,540).

Please amend Independent Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 12-16 and 21 accordingly.

Each of Claims 1-21 is directed to a packet service method involving a BSC and a BTS. That is, the present invention is directed to a packet service method for effectively supporting the soft handoff of packet voice and packet data services in a mobile communication network using packet-based transmission technology. As such, the present invention involves the improved communication between a BSC and BTSs. However, in *Wegrzyn*, there is no mention of any BTSs because *Wegrzyn* is directed to a system in which there is a single BSC included in a BS. Consequently, there are no BTSs in *Wegrzyn*. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is incorrect in rejecting Claims 1-21 as being anticipated by *Wegrzyn*, as each of these claim recites operations between a BSC and BTS.

Referring to col. 10 lines 54-65 of *Wegrzyn*, an input processor 60 adds a time stamp to single input messages that indicates when the input message was received. The input processor 60 places received unslotted messages in the unslotted message input queue 64 in the order in which they arrive, according to their time stamp value. The input processor 60 places received slotted messages in the slotted message input queue 62 according to two indexes: first, according to the first slot during which the message may be sent, and second, according to the message arrival time (the time stamp value). Thus, the slotted message input queue 62 is indexed by slot number and, within a slot, by message arrival time.

Although *Wegrzyn* teaches a time stamp, the time stamp represents a message arrival time. That is, the subject matter of *Wegrzyn* is for scheduling a message to be transmitted on a paging channel according to the message arrival time.

On the contrary, time information of the claims of the present application represents information on a time when a plurality of BTSs connected to a MS in a handoff state transmit a packet to the MS and the BTSs transmit a packet to the MS based on the time information, which enables a handoff of the MS.

Consequently, Wegrzyn claims a method for scheduling various kinds of messages to be transmitted on a paging channel (an overhead message, a slotted message, a unslotted message and etc.) in order of priority. On the other hand, the claims of the present application claim a method of converting a circuit-switched scheme to a packet-switched scheme in communication among network systems including a BTS, a BSC and a GW and thereby capable of transmitting the same data in a plurality of BTSs connected to the MS in a handoff state within an valid time.

Also, the time stamp of Wegrzyn means the message arrival time in a BS, which is used for scheduling the message, whereas the time information of the claims of the present application means a time when a BTS has to transmit a packet to a MS or a maximum waiting time allowed for packet transmission when there is no available radio link, which is used for transmitting data to the MS in a handoff state within the valid time. Wegrzyn fails to disclose such a feature of the present invention.

Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 12-16 and 21 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 12-16 and 21 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 17-20, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 17-20 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-21, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written over the typed name.

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